

CLAIMS

1. A method of repelling animals from an area which includes the steps of pressurising at least one flexible tube with compressed air and, while pressurizing the tube, allowing compressed air to escape from the tube through at least one nozzle to cause a reaction force which causes movement of the tube within the area.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the tube is caused to move substantially randomly.
3. A method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the tube is caused to move for a period which is variable.
4. A method according to claim 3 wherein a time interval between successive periods during which the tube is caused to move, is variable.
5. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein at least one substance is entrained in the compressed air.
6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the substance is selected from water, sand and mud.
7. Apparatus for repelling animals from an area which includes a source of compressed air, at least one flexible tube with an inlet which is connected to the source of compressed air, and at least one outlet nozzle through which compressed air escapes from the flexible tube while the tube is connected to

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the source of compressed air thereby to cause movement of the tube within the area.

8. Apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the tube is elongate and flexible.

9. Apparatus according to claim 7 or 8 wherein the at least one outlet nozzle is oriented to assist in causing movement of the flexible tube.

10. Apparatus according to any one of claims 7 to 9 wherein the tube is caused to rotate around a fixed axis.

11. Apparatus according to any one of claims 7 to 10 wherein the tube is elevated upon application of the compressed air to the inlet and is allowed to settle to an inoperative position when the compressed air is not applied to the inlet.

12. A system for repelling animals from an area which includes a compressed air distribution network, apparatus according to any one of claims 7 to 11, which includes a plurality of the flexible tubes, connected to the network, and a control unit for applying the compressed air via the network, in a controlled manner, to the flexible tubes.

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